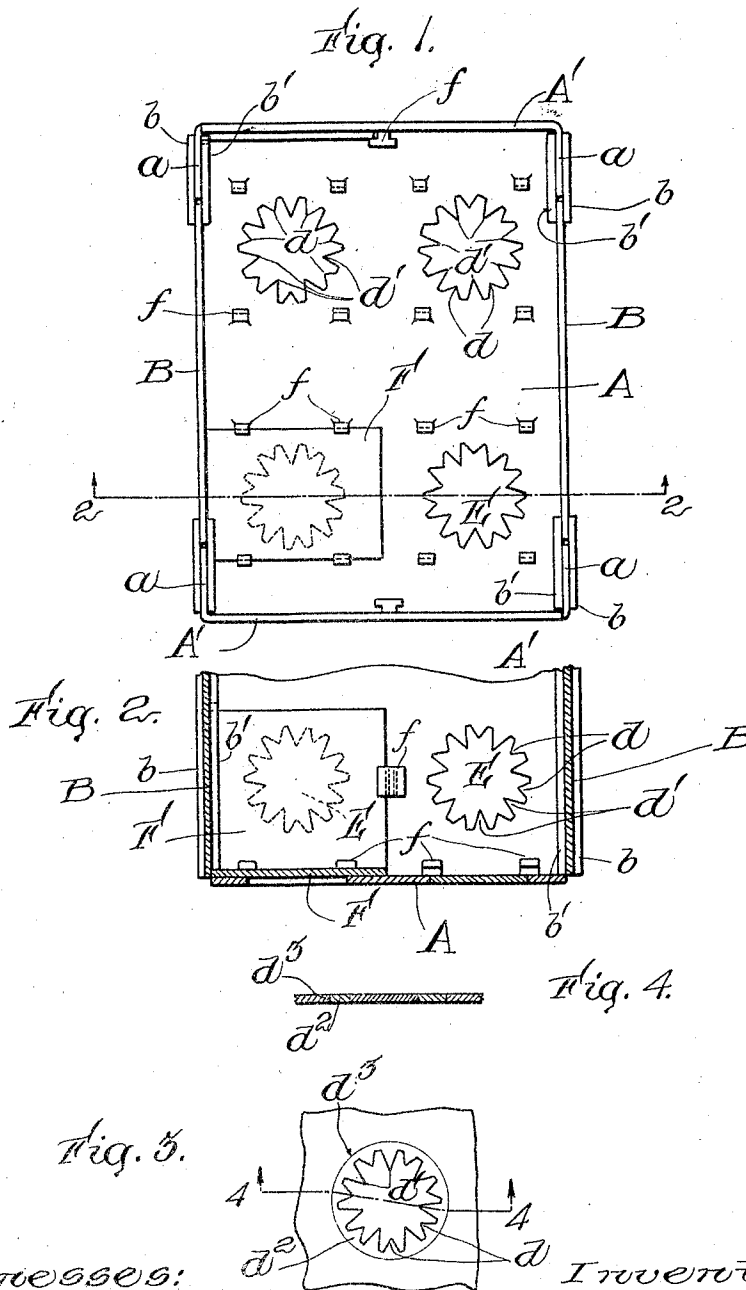


J. KEEFE.
OUTLET BOX.
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1,039,955.

Patented Oct. 1, 1912



Witnesses:
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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OUTLET-BOX.

1,039,955.

Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOSEPH KEEFE, of Boston, in the county of Suffolk and State of Massachusetts, have invented a new and useful Outlet-Box, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to that branch of electrical work in which outlet boxes are used and the main object of my invention is to provide simple but efficient means for holding a conduit in place in an outlet.

Another object is to provide in each outlet means for holding a larger or smaller conduit.

My invention consists in means extending inwardly in the outlet for gripping the conduit.

A feature of my invention is two sets of projections extending inwardly in each outlet, one set extending farther inward than the other set.

In the drawings Figure 1 is a plan of an outlet box embodying my invention; Fig. 2 is a broken section of the same on line 2-2 of Fig. 1; Fig. 3 is a plan of a detail of a modification; and Fig. 4 is a section on line 4-4 of Fig. 3.

Box A has ears or tongues *a a* projecting inwardly from the corners of the sides *A' A'* of the box. Walls *B B* have projections *b b'* which engage the ears *a* and thereby hold the walls in place. At suitable locations I provide outlets. In these outlets I provide one set of teeth *d d* extending inwardly into the outlet holes and another set *d' d'* which also extend inwardly but farther within the outlets than the first set. In Figs. 1 and 2 both sets of teeth are integral with the box while in Figs. 3 and 4 they extend inwardly from a ring *d''* wedged in a hole *d''* in the box.

I prefer to make the longer teeth thinner and therefore more yielding than the shorter teeth so that if I use a conduit of larger circumference than the circle outlined by the points of the longer teeth said points may be bent out of the way and engagement had between the conduit and shorter teeth. It will be clear that if a conduit is used of suitable diameter to engage the longer teeth the shorter teeth will not interfere with such engagement. I have shown at E a knockout portion which fills the outlet except at the portions occupied by the sets of teeth, that is to say, the periphery of the knockout portion corresponds with the out-

line of the sets of teeth. This knockout portion may be wedged or cemented in place or may be only partially removed when the box is made or it may be arranged in a variety of ways. A slight blow of a hammer or other tool will remove the knockout portion when desired.

While a knockout is a useful form of closure I sometimes prefer a closure in the form of a sliding barrier *F* which is held in position by gibbs *f f* on the box. In the particular form of box shown I prefer to recess the partition or end wall *B* at *h* so that if a barrier *F* is used as a closure for an outlet in the side *A'* of the box the upper wall of said recess will engage the top of the barrier *F* and hold it in position it being clear that the member *B* may be readily slid off when the barrier is to be removed and slid into position again after such removal.

An important advantage of my box is that without any change in parts it is adapted for use with different sizes of conduits. Another advantage is that I provide efficient conduit-holding means in a cheap and durable box.

Although I have described above certain features of end wall and barrier construction which are inventionally new with me I do not claim them in this application because they form the subject of another application.

What I claim is:

1. An outlet box comprising a wall with an opening; and two sets of projections, the first set including two projections opposed to each other across said opening and extending partially across said opening to grip a conduit of one size, and the second set including two projections opposed to each other across said opening and extending farther across said opening than the said two projections of the first set to grip a conduit of a smaller size.

2. An outlet box comprising an opening with two sets of teeth projecting inwardly from its wall, the points of one set of teeth being farther inward in the opening than the points of the other set; and a plug to fill the opening and having recesses to fit said teeth.

3. An outlet box comprising an opening; a member held within that opening and itself having a central opening with two sets of teeth projecting inwardly, the points of one

set of teeth being farther inward in the central opening than the points of the other set; and a plug to fill the opening and having recesses to fit said teeth.

- 5 4. An outlet box comprising an opening and having two sets of projections extending partially across said opening, one set extend-

ing farther across said opening than the other set and being relatively more yielding than the other set.

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Witnesses:

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